

REMARKS

The Examiner required restriction to one of the following:

- I. Claims 48, 54-56 and 60-62, drawn to a method for granting "version control" to a managing author in a document collaboration system that comprises inventions II, III and IV.
- II. Claims 1-15, drawn to a method for granting "editing rights" to a contributing author for an original document.
- III. Claims 16-26 and 30-35, drawn to a method for creating a "difference file" from an "edited replica" of an original document.
- IV. Claims 27-29, drawn to a method for allowing a contributing author to edit an original document and email said edited document to a managing author.
- V. Claims 40-47, 49-53 and 57-59, drawn to a method for allowing a managing author to select which of the contributing author's suggested amendments for an original document are incorporated into said document.

Applicant provisionally elects the claims of Group III (claims 16-26 and 30-35), with traverse. If the Examiner determines that Applicant has presumed incorrectly as to which claims the Examiner intended to include in Group III, clarification is respectfully requested.

Applicant traverses the propriety of the restriction requirement by this election, as all of the claims pertain to a claimed invention related to document collaboration involving an original document and a replica document. Applicant submits that each of the identified species includes claims which may be found as claims in at least one other species. In particular, Applicant submits that at least some of the claims of species III can be found in species I, and that likewise at least some of the claims of species II can be found in species I. Moreover, at least some of the claims of species IV may be found in species I and at least some of the claims of species V may be found in species I. While the combination-subcombination relationships may produce this, the fact that it is actually present suggests the burden on the Examiner is similar, regardless of how many or which claims are elected. The Examiner will be expected to find each element of the claimed invention regardless of the election made, and thus the Restriction Requirement should be withdrawn as moot.

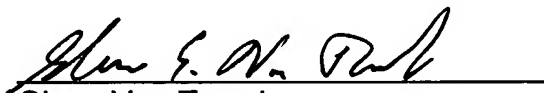
CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes that a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned counsel at (650) 838-4300 to arrange for such a conference.

No fees are believed to be due beyond those for which a check is enclosed, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment in fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2207, including any funds necessitated due to an accompanying check being drawn on an account with insufficient funds.

Respectfully submitted,

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